

CONSTITUTION OF
AUSTRALIAN CROATIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

NAME

1. The name of the incorporated association is Australian Croatian Community Services (in these Rules called "the Association").

INTERPRETATION

- 2.(1) In these Rules, unless the contrary intention appears:-

"Committee"
means the Committee of Management of the Association.

"Financial Year"
means the year ending on 30 June.

"General Meeting"
means a general meeting of members convened in accordance with Rule 11.

"Member"
means a member of the Association.

"Ordinary Member of the Committee"
means a member of the committee who is not an officer of the Association under Rule 21.

"The Act"
means the **Associations Incorporation Act 1981**

"The Regulations"
means regulations under the Act.

- (2) In these Rules, a reference to the Secretary of an Association is a reference :-

(a) where a person holds office under these Rules as Secretary of the Association – to that person; and

(b) in any other case, to the public officer of the Association.

(3) Words or expressions contained in these Rules shall be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of the Acts Interpretation Act 1958 and the Act as in force from time to time.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

3.(1) Membership of the Association shall be open to all those who uphold the aims and objectives of the Association, either as individuals or as a representative of a non-political organisation.

(2) A nomination of a person or organisation for membership of the Association :-

(a) shall be made in writing in the form set out in Appendix 1;

(b) shall be accompanied by the sum payable under these Rules for the first year's annual subscription; and

(c) shall be lodged with the Secretary of the Association.

(3) As soon as is practicable after the receipt of a nomination, the Secretary shall refer the nomination to the Committee.

(4) Upon a nomination being referred to the Committee, the Committee shall determine whether to approve or to reject the nomination.

(5) Upon a nomination being determined by the Committee, the Secretary shall, with as little delay as possible :-

(a) notify the nominee in writing that he is approved for membership of the Association and issue a receipt for the sum payable under these Rules as the first year's annual subscription; or

(b) notify the nominee in writing that he is rejected for membership of the Association and refund the sum payable under these Rules as the first year's annual subscription.

(6) The Secretary shall, upon a nomination being approved by the Committee, enter the nominee's name in the register of members kept by him and, upon the name being so entered, the nominee becomes a member of the Association.

- (7) A right, privilege, or obligation of a person by reason of his membership of the Association :-
- (a) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person;
 - (b) terminates upon the cessation of his membership whether by death or resignation or otherwise.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

- 4.(1) The annual subscription is \$5.00 for individual members and \$10.00 for member organisations.
- (2) The annual subscription is payable at or before the annual general meeting.

REGISTER OF MEMBERS

5. The Secretary shall keep and maintain a register of members in which shall be entered the full name, address and date of entry of the name of each member and the register shall be available for inspection by members at the address of the public officer.

CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 6.(1) A member of the Association who has paid all monies due and payable by him to the Association may resign from the association by first giving one months notice in writing to the Secretary of his intention to resign and upon the expiration of that period of notice, the member shall cease to be a member.
- (2) Upon the expiration of a notice given under sub-clause (1), the Secretary shall make in the register of members an entry recording the date on which the member whom the notice was given, ceased to be a member.
- (3) A member of the Association who has not paid his annual subscription within one year of the due date shall cease to be a member of the Association.
- (4) Upon the expiration of the period under sub-clause (3), the Secretary shall make in the register of members an entry recording the date and reason by which the member ceased to be a member.
- 7.(1) Subject to these Rules, the Committee may by resolution :-

- (a) expel a member from the Association;
- (b) suspend a member from membership of the Association for a specified period; or
- (c) fine a member in accordance with the Regulations if the Committee is of the opinion that the member :-
- (i) has refused or neglected to comply with these Rules; or
- (ii) has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a member or prejudicial to the interests of the Association.
- (2) A resolution of the Committee under sub-clause (1) :-
- (a) does not take effect unless the Committee, at a meeting held not earlier than 14 and not later than 28 days after the service on the member of a notice under sub-clause (3) confirms the resolution in accordance with this clause; and
- (b) where the member exercises a right of appeal to the Association under this clause does not take effect unless the Association confirms the resolution in accordance with this clause.
- (3) Where the Committee passes a resolution under sub-clause (1), the Secretary shall, as soon as practicable, cause to be served on the member a notice in writing :-
- (a) setting out the resolution of the Committee and the grounds on which it is based;
- (b) stating that the member may address the Committee at a meeting to be held not earlier than 14 and not later than 28 days after service of the notice;
- (c) stating the date, place and time of the meeting;
- (d) informing the member that he may do one or more of the following :-
- (i) Attend the meeting;

- (ii) Give to the Committee before the date of that meeting a written statement seeking the revocation of the resolution;
 - (iii) Not later than 7 days before the date of the meeting, lodge with the Secretary a notice to the effect that he wishes to appeal to the Association in general meeting against the resolution.
- (4) At a meeting of the Committee held in accordance with sub-clause (2), the Committee :-
 - (a) shall give to the member an opportunity to be heard;
 - (b) shall give due consideration to any written statement submitted by the member; and
 - (c) shall by resolution determine whether to confirm or to revoke the resolution.
- (5) Where the Secretary receives a notice under sub-clause (3), he shall notify the Committee and the Committee shall convene a general meeting of the Association to be held within 21 days after the date on which the Secretary received the notice.
- (6) At a general meeting of the Association convened under sub-clause (5) :-
 - (a) no business other than the question of the appeal shall be transacted;
 - (b) the Committee may place before the meeting details of the grounds for the resolution and the reasons for the passing of the resolution;
 - (c) the member shall be given an opportunity to be heard; and
 - (d) the members present shall vote by secret ballot on the question whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked.
- (7) If at the general meeting :-
 - (a) two-thirds of the members vote in person or by proxy in favour of the confirmation of the resolution, the resolution is confirmed; and
 - (b) in any other case, the resolution is revoked.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8.(1) The Association shall in each calendar year convene an annual general meeting of its members.

(2) The annual general meeting shall be held on such day as the Committee determines.

(3) The annual general meeting shall be specified as such in the notice convening it.

(4) The ordinary business of the annual general meeting shall be :-

(a) to confirm the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any general meeting held since that meeting;

(b) to receive from the Committee reports upon the transactions of the Association during the last preceding financial year;

(c) to elect officers of the Association and the ordinary members of the Committee; and

(d) to receive and consider the statement submitted by the Association in accordance with section 30(3) of the Act.

(5) The annual general meeting may transact special business of which notice is given in accordance with these Rules.

(6) The annual general meeting shall be in addition to any other general meetings that may be held in the same year.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

9. All general meetings other than the annual general meeting shall be called special general meetings.

10.(1) The Committee may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special general meeting of the Association and, where, but for this sub-clause, more than 15 months would lapse between annual general meetings, shall convene a special general meeting before the expiration of that period.

- (2) The Committee shall, on the requisition in writing of members representing not less than 5% of the total number of members, convene a special general meeting of the Association.
- (3) The requisition for a special general meeting shall state the objects of the meeting and shall be signed by the members making the requisition and be sent to the address of the Secretary and may consist of several documents in a like form, each signed by one or more of the members making the requisition.
- (4) If the Committee does not cause a special general meeting to be held within one month after the date on which the requisition is sent to the address of the Secretary, the members making the requisition, or any of them, may convene a special general meeting to be held not later than 3 months after that date.
- (5) A special general meeting convened by members in pursuance of these Rules shall be convened in the same manner as nearly as possible as that in which those meetings are convened by the Committee and all reasonable expenses incurred in convening the meeting shall be refunded by the Association to the persons incurring the expenses.

NOTICE OF MEETING

- 11.(1) The Secretary of the Association shall, at least 14 days before the date fixed for holding a general meeting of the Association, cause to be sent to each member of the Association at his address appearing in the register of members, a notice by pre-paid post stating the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting.
- (2) No business other than that set out in the notice convening the meeting shall be transacted at the meeting.
- (3) A member desiring to bring any business before a meeting may give notice of that business in writing to the Secretary, who shall include that business in the notice calling the next general meeting after the receipt of the notice.

PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS

- 12.(1) All business that is transacted at a special general meeting and all business that is transacted at the annual general meeting with the exception of that specially referred to in these Rules as being the ordinary business of the annual general meeting shall be deemed to be special business.
- (2) No item of business shall be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of members entitled under these Rules to vote is present during the time when the meeting is considering the item.
- (3) 5 members personally present (being members entitled under these Rules to vote at a general meeting) constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a general meeting.
- (4) If within half an hour after the appointed time for the commencement of a general meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting if convened upon the requisition of members shall be dissolved and in any other case shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and (unless another place is specified by the Chairperson at the time of the adjournment or by written notice to members given before the day to which the meeting is adjourned) at the same place and if at the adjourned meeting the quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, the members present (being not less than 3) shall be a quorum.
- 13.(1) The Chairperson, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairperson, shall preside as Chairperson at each general meeting of the Association,
- (2) If the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson are absent from a general meeting, the members present shall elect one of their number to preside as Chairperson at the meeting.
- 14.(1) The Chairperson of a general meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting at which the adjournment took place.
- (2) Where a meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, a like notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of the general meeting.
- (3) Except as provided in sub-clauses (1) and (2), it is not necessary to give notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.

15. A question arising at a general meeting of the Association shall be determined on a show of hands and unless before or on the declaration of the show of hands a poll is demanded, a declaration by the Chairperson that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried or carried unanimously or carried by a particular majority or lost, and an entry to that effect in the Minute Book of the Association is evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of, or against, that resolution.
- 16.(1) Upon any question arising at a general meeting of the Association, a member has one vote only.
- (2) All votes shall be given personally or by proxy.
- (3) In the case of an equality of voting on a question, the Chairperson of the meeting is entitled to exercise a second or casting vote.
- 17.(1) If at a meeting a poll on any question is demanded by not less than three members, it shall be taken at that meeting in such manner as the Chairperson may direct and the resolution of the poll shall be deemed to be a resolution of the meeting on that question.
- (2) A poll that is demanded on the election of a Chairperson or on a question of an adjournment shall be taken forthwith and a poll that is demanded on any other question shall be taken at such time before the close of the meeting as the Chairperson may direct.
18. A member is not entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all monies due and payable by him to the Association have been paid.
- 19.(1) Each member shall be entitled to appoint another member as his proxy by notice given to the Secretary no later than 24 hours before the time of the meeting in respect of which the proxy is appointed.
- (2) The notice appointing the proxy shall be in the form set out in Appendix 2.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

- 20.(1) The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Committee of Management constituted as provided in Rule 21.
- (2) The Committee :-
- (a) shall control and manage the business and affairs of the Association;

- 21.(1) The officers of the Association shall be :-
- (a) a chairperson
 - (b) a Vice-Chairperson
 - (c) a Treasurer; and
 - (d) a Secretary.
- (2) The provisions of Rule 23 so far as they are applicable and with the necessary modifications, apply to and in relation to the election of persons to any of the offices mentioned in sub-clause (1).
- (3) Each officer of the Association shall hold office until the annual general meeting next after the date of his election but is eligible for re-election.
- (4) In the event of a casual vacancy in any office referred to in sub-clause (1), the Committee may appoint one of its members to the vacant office and the member so appointed may continue in office up to and including the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of his appointment.
- 22.(1) Subject to section 23 of the Act, the Committee shall consist of :-
- (a) the officers of the Association; and
 - (b) 3 ordinary members
- each of whom shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the Association in each year.

- (2) Each ordinary member of the Committee shall, subject to these Rules, hold office until the annual general meeting next after the date of his election but is eligible for re-election.
- (3) In the event of a casual vacancy occurring in the office of an ordinary member of the Committee, the Committee may appoint a member of the Association to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed shall hold office, subject to these Rules, until the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of his appointment.
- (4) The Committee may appoint working groups to act on a particular issue or project :-
- (a) all working groups shall consist of :-
 - (i) a member of the Committee; and
 - (ii) members from organisations who have a particular interest or expertise on issues and support the aims and objectives of the Association.
 - (b) all working groups shall act in accordance with the aims and objectives of the Association.
 - (c) all working groups shall be deemed to be accountable to the Committee of Management of the Association.
 - (d) The Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson shall be members of all working groups.
 - (e) All working groups shall report to the regular meetings of the Association.
 - (f) The Committee shall have the power to wind up any working group.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND VACANCY

- 23.(1) Nominations of candidates for election as officers of the Association or as ordinary members of the Committee :-
- (a) shall be in writing in the form set out in Appendix 3; and

(b) shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Association not less than 7 days before the date fixed for the holding of the annual general meeting.

(2) If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the Committee, the candidates nominated shall be deemed to be elected and further nominations shall be received at the annual general meeting.

(3) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated shall be deemed to be elected.

(4) If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot shall be held.

(5) The ballot for the election of officers and ordinary members of the Committee shall be conducted at the annual general meeting in such usual and proper manner as the Committee may direct.

(6) A nomination of a candidate for election under this clause is not valid if that candidate has been nominated for another office for election at the same election.

24. For the purposes of these Rules, the office of an officer of the Association or of an ordinary member of the Committee becomes vacant if the officer or member :-

(a) ceases to be a member of the Association;

(b) becomes an insolvent under administration within the meaning of the Companies (Victoria) Code;

(c) resigns his office by notice in writing given to the Secretary; or

(d) has been absent from more than two consecutive Committee meetings.

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEE

25.(1) The Committee shall meet at least 3 times in each year at such place and such times as the Committee may determine.

(2) Special meetings of the Committee may be convened by the Chairperson or any 4 of the members of the Committee.

- (3) Notice shall be given to members of the Committee of any special meeting specifying the general nature of the business to be transacted and no other business shall be transacted at such a meeting.
- (4) Any 4 members of the Committee constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the Committee.
- (5) No business shall be transacted unless a quorum is present and if within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same place and at the same hour of the same day in the following week unless the meeting was a special meeting in which case it lapses.
- (6) At meetings of the Committee :-
 - (a) the Chairperson or in his absence the Vice-Chairperson shall preside; or
 - (b) if the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are absent, such one of the remaining members of the Committee as may be chosen by the members present shall preside.
- (7) Questions arising at a meeting of the Committee shall be determined on a show of hands or, if demanded by a member, by a poll taken in such manner as the person presiding at the meeting may determine.
- (8) Each member present at a meeting of the Committee (including the person presiding at the meeting) is entitled to one vote and, in the event of an equality of votes on any question, the person presiding may exercise a second or casting vote.
- (9) Written notice of each Committee meeting shall be served on each member of the Committee by delivering it to him at a reasonable time before the meeting or by sending it by pre-paid post addressed to him at his usual or last known place of abode at least two business days before the date of the meeting.
- (10) Subject to sub-clause (4) the Committee may act notwithstanding any vacancy on the Committee.

SECRETARY

26. The Secretary of the Association shall keep minutes of the resolutions and proceedings of each general meeting and each committee meeting in books

provided for that purpose together with a record of the names of persons present at committee meetings.

TREASURER

The Treasurer of the Association :- 27.(1)

(a) shall collect and receive all monies due to the Association and make all payments authorised by the Association; and

(b) shall keep correct accounts and books showing the financial affairs of the Association with full details of all receipts and expenditure connected with the activities of the Association.

The accounts and books referred to in sub-clause (1) shall be available for inspection by members. (2)

REMOVAL OF MEMBER OF COMMITTEE

The Association in general meeting may by resolution remove any member of the Committee before the expiration of his term of office and appoint another member in his stead to hold office until the expiration of the term of the first mentioned member. 28.(1)

Where the member to whom a proposed resolution referred to in sub-clause (1) makes representations in writing to the Secretary or Chairperson of the Association (not exceeding a reasonable length) and requests that they be notified to the members of the Association, the Secretary or the Chairperson may send a copy of the representations to each member of the Association or, if they are not so sent, the member may require that they be read out at the meeting. (2)

CHEQUES

All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments shall be signed by two members of the Committee. 29.

SEAL

The Common Seal of the Association shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary. 30.(1)

- (2) The Common Seal shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the Committee and the affixing of the Common Seal shall be attested by the signatures either of two members of the Committee or of one member of the Committee and the Public Officer of the Association.

ALTERATION OF RULES AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSES

31. These Rules and the statement of purposes of the Association shall not be altered except in accordance with the Act.

NOTICES

- 32.(1) A notice may be served by or on behalf of the Association upon any member either personally or by sending it by post to the member at his address shown in the Register of Members.
- (2) Where a document is properly addressed, pre-paid and posted to a person as a letter, the document shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been given to the person at the time at which the letter would have been delivered in the ordinary course of post.

WINDING UP OR CANCELLATION

33. (1) If the Association is wound up or if the endorsement of the Association as a deductible gift recipient is revoked, the following assets remaining after the payment of the organisation's liabilities shall be transferred to a fund, authority or institution to which income tax deductible gifts can be made:
- gifts of money or property for the principal purpose of the Association;
 - contributions made in relation to an eligible fundraising event held for the principal purpose of the Association; and
 - money received by the Association because of such gifts and contributions.
- 33.(2) Any and all assets remaining after the just debts and liabilities incurred by the Association have been met, shall be disposed of by transfer to another Croatian non profit organisation with similar aims and objectives.

CUSTODY OF RECORDS

34. Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, the Secretary shall keep in his custody or under his control all books, documents and securities of the Association.

INCOME AND ASSETS

- 35.(1) The Association is a non profit organisation.
- (2) The income of the Association shall be derived from annual subscriptions, donations, government grants and such other sources as the Committee determines.
- (3) The income and assets of the Association shall be applied solely towards the attainment of the aims and objectives of the Association.
- (4) No portion of the income and assets of the Association shall be paid or transferred either directly or indirectly or by way of dividends, bonus or profit to any member of the Association.
- (5) Nothing in sub-clause (4) shall preclude the Association in the ordinary course of the affairs of the Association from contracting for services with any member of the Association.

AUSTRALIAN CROATIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE INCORPORATED**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

I _____

of _____

desire to become a member of Australian Croatian Community Services Incorporated. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the Rules of the Association for the time being in force.

I enclose the annual subscription (\$5.00 for individuals or \$10.00 for organisations).

DATE _____

Signature of Applicant

I _____

a member of the Association nominate the Applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the Association.

DATE _____

Signature of Proposer

I _____

a member of the Association second the nomination of the Applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the Association.

DATE _____

Signature of Seconder

AUSTRALIAN CROATIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE INCORPORATED

APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

of _____
being a member of Australian Croatian Community Services Incorporated hereby appoint

of _____

being a member of that Incorporated Association, as my proxy to vote for me on my
behalf at the general meeting of the Association (annual general meeting or special
general meeting, as the case may be) to be held on the

_____ day of _____ 20_____

and at any adjournment of the meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of / against (delete as appropriate)
the resolution (insert details)

DATE _____ Signature of Member _____

AUSTRALIAN CROATIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE INCORPORATED

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATE FOR THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

I _____

of _____

desire to nominate for the Committee of Management of Australian Croatian Community Service Incorporated,

DATE _____

Signature of Candidate

I _____

a member of the Association nominate the Candidate for the Committee of Management.

DATE _____

Signature of Proposer

I _____

a member of the Association second the nomination of the Candidate for the Committee of Management.

DATE _____

Signature of Seconder

AUSTRALIAN CROATIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To promote and carry out charitable purposes provided that such charitable purposes can be directed towards persons in necessitous circumstances or to organisations approved by the Commissioner of Taxation as per item 140(c) of the first schedule of the Sales Tax (Exemption and Classifications) Act or relevant rules as amended or item 4.1.1 in table four of rule 78 of the Income Tax Assessment Act or relevant rules amended.
2. Provide ongoing information sessions, seminars and training on health and wellbeing issues in accordance with identified needs to raise awareness and improve skills among the target communities.
3. Providing ongoing information, resources and support to organisations in the wider community and the community services sector to enhance understanding and awareness about the target communities, their health and wellbeing and the prevalence of diseases within the target communities.
4. Undertake ongoing research and consultations with the target communities to determine the state of health and wellbeing.
5. Provide ongoing support to people suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and related issues.
6. Establish and maintain groups within the target communities to participate in ongoing activities for the enhancement of physical and mental wellbeing.
7. Identify, develop and implement information and education programs for volunteers and carers to equip them to deal with health and wellbeing issues faced by members of the target communities.
8. Deliver English language and other relevant training to enhance the ability of the target communities to communicate and participate in the wider community, enhancing their quality of life, health and wellbeing.
9. Provide aids and equipment to the aged and disabled to improve their quality of life, mobility and wellbeing.

10. Liaise with relevant government and mainstream organisations to develop and implement best practice programs and services for the prevention, treatment and management of diseases and illnesses.
11. Develop and maintain relationships with relevant mainstream organisations to conduct assessments on individual clients and develop models of care to manage the health needs of individual clients.
12. Address special needs through specific programs and services.